



Montana Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, Superintendent

MontCAS Montana Comprehensive Assessment System April 2009 Newsletter

Montana Comprehensive Assessment System

MontCAS Presents

Introducing "MontCAS Presents"

- ☆ Featuring online professional development for Montana Educators
- ☆ Coming Soon
 - Book Discussions: June 2009: *Transformative Assessment*, by W. Jim Popham
 - Online Classes: August 2009 – December 2009: Formative Assessment with Margaret Heritage
 - Other Book Discussions and Classes, Seminars and Learning Communities: Schedules to be announced at a later date
 - Formative assessment, RTI, Test Design, Task Forces, Steering Committees
 - Renewal units and college credits will be available
- ☆ Schedules and details will be posted on the "MontCAS Presents" site:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/Assessment/MCPresents.html>

For more information, please contact Judy Snow, jsnow@mt.gov, 406-444-3656

Reporting Dates for Spring 2009 CRT and CRT-Alternate



June 2, 2009	CRT Reading, Math, and Science Summary Reports and Interactive Data posted on MARS.
June 8, 2009	CRT-Alternate Reading, Math, and Science Summary Reports and Interactive Data posted on MARS.
September 2009	CRT and CRT-Alternate Report Interpretation Guides, Parent Letters and Cumulative Folder Labels shipped to system test coordinators.

2009-2010 MontCAS Testing Windows



October 19 - November 20, 2009	English Language Proficiency (ELP), Grades K-12
February 19 - March 24, 2010	CRT-Alternate, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science.
March 1 - March 24, 2010	CRT, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science

2009-2010 English Language Proficiency Materials/Training Schedule



Date	Test Coordinator Checklist
June 1, 2009	OPI sends Questar the number of LEP students in each grade based on enrollment reported in AIM. This number will help Questar determine how many test booklets to print.
July 14, 2009	OPI sends Questar the list of districts with LEP students reported in AIM. Any district with LEP students in AIM will receive ELP materials.
July 31, 2009	Questar emails System Test Coordinators information about ordering Level 1 (beginner forms), Braille, and Large Print (LP) test forms through a secure online system.
August 3 - 21, 2009	Level 1 (beginner), Braille, and Large Print (LP) forms must be requested by August 21. Systems order them through the secure online system.
September 4, 2009	OPI sends Questar the number of LEP students in each grade based on what is reported in AIM. This number will help Questar determine how many test booklets to send to each system.
September 14 - October 16, 2009	System Test Coordinators provide training for test administrators.
October 5, 2009	Questar ships testing materials to System Test Coordinators.
October 19-November 20, 2009	English Language Proficiency (ELP) Testing Window
October 30, 2009	OPI sends Questar the list of students identified as LEP in AIM, so that Questar can print barcode labels for the students. AIM must be updated no later than October 29, 2009 in order to receive barcode labels for students.
November 9, 2009	Questar mails barcode labels to systems (2 nd day delivery).
December 4, 2009	Deadline for systems to ship testing materials to Questar.
February 2010	Questar ships reports to System Test Coordinators



2009 Adequate Yearly Progress

- Prior to the start of the 2009-2010 school year, the Office of Public Instruction will release Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determinations as required by federal law under the No Child Left Behind Act.
- As part of the AYP process, the Office of Public Instruction sends proposed AYP determinations to school districts.
- This is followed by a two-week appeals period during which time school districts may appeal their proposed determinations by submitting statistical information and evidence to justify any change in the proposed determinations.
- The federal law requires district notification of AYP status before the beginning of the school year to ensure timely notifications to parents of school and district improvement identifications.
- The table below shows the planned dates for 2009.

Planned AYP Dates	AYP Checklist
July 28, 2009	OPI mails proposed AYP determinations to school districts.
August 12, 2009	Deadline for school districts to request an appeal
August 28, 2009	OPI mails final AYP determinations to school districts.

Annual Measurable Objectives

The table below contains the Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) required for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) through 2014. Science is not included in the calculations for AYP.



	2005-06 Year 1	2006-07 Year 2	2007-08 Year 3	2008-09 Year 4	2009-10 Year 5	2010-11 Year 6	2011-12 Year 7	2012-13 Year 8	2013-14 Year 9
Reading	74%	74%	83%	83%	83%	92%	92%	92%	100%
Math	51%	51%	68%	68%	68%	84%	84%	84%	100%



If you have questions about AYP or AMOs, please contact Assistant Superintendent Nancy Coopersmith: ncoopersmith@mt.gov, 406-444-5541

Testing Contractor Contact Information

MontCAS, the CRT and the CRT-Alternate – Measured Progress, Inc.

Dan Verdick, Montana CRT Program Manager

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Kevin Froton, Montana CRT-Alternate Program Assistant

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MontCAS, the English Language Proficiency (ELP) – Questar Assessment Inc.

BJ Vickery, Program Manager

bjvickery@questarai.com or 888-854-9596

CRT and CRT-Alternate Test Development Events

OPI is still looking for volunteers to participate in for CRT test development projects in May and July 2009.

You are invited and encouraged to nominate yourself and/or others to participate.

- Training is included for each session
- Lodging is provided for participants living 90 miles away from Helena. In addition, mileage, meals not provided during the sessions, and substitute pay are reimbursed. For the July meetings, honoraria are provided. Renewal units are also available for all sessions.
- The table below lists events and open spaces for May 2009 and July 2009.
- We look forward to hearing from you soon. Montana educator involvement and participation are crucial to test development. Thank you for considering.

Nomination is online at the following link:

<http://iservices.measuredprogress.org/Default.asp?ProgramID=11&submit1=Enter>



Date	Test Development Events—Current Needs
May 11, 2009	CRT Item Bias Review: Montana educators review the 2010 field test items for bias and sensitivity issues. Still needed are: Math: Two participants Science: One participant
May 13-14, 2009	CRT Item Content Review: Montana educators review the 2010 field test items for their content, alignment to Montana standards, and depth of knowledge. Still needed are: Reading: Three participants for grade 10 Math: Two participants for grade 10 Science: One participant each for grades 4 and 8 Science: Two participants for grade 10
July 21-22, 2009	Final item review for the 2010 CRT (the operational, not field-test items) Spaces are still open in all grades and content areas. Reading and Math, Grades 3-8 and 10 Science, Grades 4, 8, and 10

OPI Assessment Contacts

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